

Price of a barrel of petroleum
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INSIDE TODAY
WORLD NEWS
AGENT ORANGE



In this Thursday, Aug. 27, 2009 photo, Tran Tien Dat, 4, is seen during a rehabilitation session with his aunt Doan Thi Quyen at Thanh Xuan Peace Village in Hanoi, Vietnam. Dat's father was exposed to Agent Orange in central Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

See International News on Page B7

SPORTS NEWS
O'FER JETER



New York Yankees' Derek Jeter looks on from the bench after leaving the game during the sixth inning of the second game of a baseball doubleheader against the Tampa Bay Rays Monday, Sept. 7, 2009 at Yankee Stadium in New York. Jeter went hitless in the doubleheader.

See Sports Today on Page B12

Celebration week of the Wit Gele Kruis Aruba culminates



PALM BEACH – The White Yellow Cross Foundation commemorated 50 years of community service this week with a number of festivities taking place at the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa. A daytime activity included a “muchila creativo” under the direction of Joan Danies, an



interactive presentation in the Grand Caribbean Ballroom outlining all services rendered by the White Yellow Cross to members of the community,



kids, the elderly and the infirm. The presentation came alive in the form of a “tableau vivant,” as participants acted and introduced home care, parent and childcare, information on nutrition, blood sugar and pressure control, cholesterol and triglycerides and disability services to the music of duo Nostalgia Caribeña.

The nighttime celebration included a gala evening with dance music by Tsunami and a wonderful array of snacks and hors d'oeuvres offered by the resort culinary team which concluded the



festivities for the organization determined to activate and optimize healthcare for the Aruban community. □



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Professional Pest Control dedicates a Saturday to the community



ORANJESTAD – Professional Pest Control NV recently dedicated a full Saturday to the community scouring the beach around Fisherman's Huts and Malmok past the Marriott Aruba Resort. Company volunteers filled 12 big bags of trash, and at the end

of the day enjoyed a small company picnic. "This is an excellent opportunity for us to demonstrate that our collective efforts are essential to the preservation of Caribbean's charm, beauty & cleanliness," said Managing Director Anthony

Wever. "While the company serves both the residential and the commercial sectors, Aruba's beaches are the common denominator. Beloved by locals and visitors, they are worthy of a bit of TLC, in the style of Professional Pest Control NV," he added. For helpful information and the latest pest control solutions, visit <http://www.professionalpestcontrol.biz>.

Pictured here, PPC NV, in service of the community





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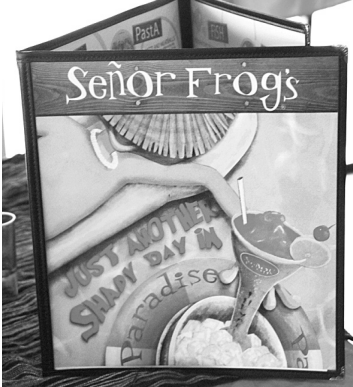
The Beauty Emporium since 1955

Señor Frog's launches New Menu for Aruba



ORANJESTAD - Señor Frog's was born to fill a unique type of entertainment with high-spirited attitude people who can make you have a great time any time. Aruba, as an excellent vacation destination, has a strong demand for entertainment which is part of wonderful vacation. This Island is renown for having the highest percentage of repeat guest in the Caribbean and one of the reasons why is

the great food and entertainment. Señor Frog's is not just a restaurant or a bar. It's a full entertainment idea and concept that starts from the moment you enter until you leave Frogs, with its full color texture and a warm welcome to its crazy and super spontaneous staff. The local media was recently welcomed to a traditional 28-ounce yard cocktail in honor of launching the brand new



menu. Señor Frog's is ready to satisfy all tastes and styles launches an International Menu with new features such as, Fettuccini Alfredo, Coconut Shrimp Dishes, Ceviche made on your table and much more delicious dishes with a Mexican Frog's style. With more than a year in Aruba, Señor Frog's staff can't be quiet and are creating new games and entertainment every night, with its unique waterslide, live DJ and MC all night long. Wednesday Night you can enjoy of a 4-course dinner with transportation included, welcome shot, a yard cocktail and Mexican Mariachi and Thursday with a karaoke and more games. Señor Frog's is really the place to be and have fun in the beginning of down town Aruba. Becoming part of Facebook you can easily check your pictures, update yourself and print specials every week. □





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AAA N.V. reports continued growth in passenger traffic in August 2009

August 2009 second highest RGP month end record to date



ORANJESTAD – Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) continues to see positive growth in passenger traffic for the month of August 2009 amidst continued economic turmoil and uncertainty in demand for

travel. Revenue Generating Passengers (RGP) at AAA during the month of August 2009 were up by 1.7% whilst the amount of commercial flights has decreased by -1.3% compared to the same month in 2008.

Interestingly the RGP results for August 2008 were 4.9% higher than August 2007, a record breaking year, making these results the best for the month of August on record at AAA. In addition, August 2009 RGP results clock in second to March 2008 as the largest amount of RGP

obtained in a single month. The North American PFC market grew slightly by 0.5% compared to August. The European PFC market grew by a staggering 24.9% compared to August 2008 with Martinair transporting 8.9% more passengers than KLM during the same period in 2008.

Flights from the European market grew by 28.3%

compared to August 2008 and are mainly attributed to the increase in flights from London Gatwick and Amsterdam. RGP from Latin America decreased by -7.5%.

The Venezuelan government's decision to cancel all charter flights to Aruba and Curacao earlier this year has an effect during the holiday periods. The Netherlands Antilles saw an increase in PFC of 7.1% compared to August.

“The results of August 2009 are a clear indication that there is a continued positive change in our results since the second quarter” said Peter Steinmetz, Managing Director AAA N.V. “as we mentioned last

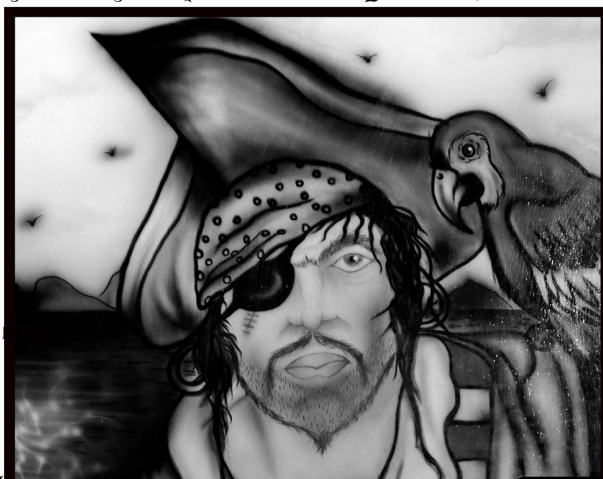
month, there is still no indication as to the end of the economic turmoil and travel demand remains unpredictable. September will prove challenging as typically there is a decrease in travel after the US Labor Day Holiday weekend. AAA N.V. remains focused on retention of air service and minimizing the impact of the economic downturn. Our relationship with our valued airline partners remains the cornerstone of our success.” □

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Aruban born Calvin Maduro with family and friends

X-Pro Baseball player celebrates at Texas de Brazil



PALM BEACH - Calvin Maduro celebrated his birthday with family and friends at Aruba's favorite churascaria Texas de Brazil



this past weekend. Maduro, born September 5, 1974 in Aruba, was a professional baseball player who played 5 years in the major leagues. Most recently, the pitching coach for the Aberdeen IronBirds (Orioles) of the New York-Penn League. Maduro played for the Philadelphia Phillies from 1996 to 1997 and for the Baltimore Orioles from 2000 to 2002. Maduro also represented the Netherlands at the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens where he and his team became sixth. In those years he played

for the Dutch major league club HCAW.

After the 2003 season, he was decorated with an Order of Orange-Nassau, in the grade Knight, along with fellow baseball players Eugene

Kingsale and Sidney Ponson. Maduro enjoyed his birthday with a never-ending flow of choice cuts of grilled certified Angus beef, chicken, lamb, pork & sausage, slow-roasted over an open flame,

seasoned to perfection and accompanied by extravagant forty-item seasonal salads, roasted vegetables, soup and side items.

Congratulations to Calvin Maduro from Aruba Today. □

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Foam Rock Fest 2009 on September 11



ORANJESTAD - Djimpro Rock Events is giving local talents the chance to shine and show their musical skills in front of a live music loving crowd. Dwight Jimenez, with many successful events to his name, is making this event possible.

This Friday on September 11th there will be an event at the City One Night Club with the name "Foam Rock Fest" where City One will be under foam with all well known local rock bands, an event that promises to be big and unique. Everybody

is welcomed and be dressed ready to be covered in foam.

Bands that will be performing are Scarlet, 12volts, Resurrecting the Fallen, Ear Plugs, Malekai, A death Recipe y It's a Massacre. Also present the DJ's like Dj Calvin and Dj W- Brothers. This will be the biggest rock party of 2009 together with Lexy the lead singer of one of the bands performing that evening. Lexy is part of the band Scarlet who recently received much attention from A1 music records in the United States. There will also be lots of big surprises for all that attend this party.

Doors open at 7 pm at the City One. □



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PALM BEACH - There is no better time of the year then Christmas season ! That's why recently the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort Aruba's Sales and catering department presented it's menu and preparation skills for this Christmas season celebration. The Holiday Inn team can with out a doubt organize your event starting with a minimum group of 50 persons maximum to 200 people. They have a vast variety on their

menu in order to please one and all. For those who are willing to make the decision early to celebrate their Christmas party or company event, the Holiday Inn has some very attractive packages if you call before September 30th, 2009. You can call the Sales department at 568-9600 and reserve your space. The pictures show the beautiful setting that can be arranged for you by the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort.



Grand finale to Arion's incentive wine trip to California



The five winners of the Arion Wine Company's incentive wine trip have had the time of their lives: in the past week they toured the fabulous wineries in Napa Valley, enjoying exquisite tastings and fabulous hospitality. Their

last 'working day' was at Kendall Jackson with host Jim, who showed Luc from Marandi, Renate from Hadicurari, Maria from Gianni's, Jorge from The Flying Fishbone and Felix from Mulligan's the various micro climates which make

for such great wines.

Heading for Healdsburg, the group went to La Crema with Mark to taste their excellent Chardonnays and Pinot Noirs: all cool climate varieties that ripen early. The first 2009 crop has been harvested already!

Up at Alexander Mountain there was lunch with a matchless view of the entire valley. This called for a Shiraz, this time from Australia's Yangarra Winery. The Jackson family produces not only Californian wines, but also wines in France, Australia and Italy (Tenuta di Arcena).

After lunch it was time to do a barrel tasting with winemaker Fritz: this included tasting fermenting, crude wines. The afternoon



went on with a tasting at Matanzas Creek, famous for its Sauvignon Blancs and Merlots. And the grand finale was at Kendall Jackson's, where a small reception took place in the amazing 'tasting garden', where all plants, herbs, fruits and vegetables that are found in the terminology of wines are found. The 180 kinds of tomatoes made a lasting impression!

Dinner by KJ chef Eric was excellent and Jim was the

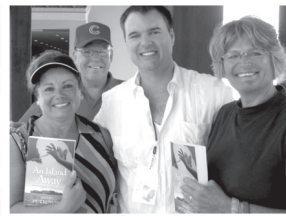
perfect host. Many a glass was raised to the wonderful trip of Arion Wine Company and to owner Govert van der Hout, but there was more to come: a canoe trip on the Russian River the next day. How wonderful to end a super week this way.

In the meantime, Luc, Renate, Felix, Maria and Jorge are back on the island. If you want to hear their personal stories and see their countless photos, look them up at their restaurants





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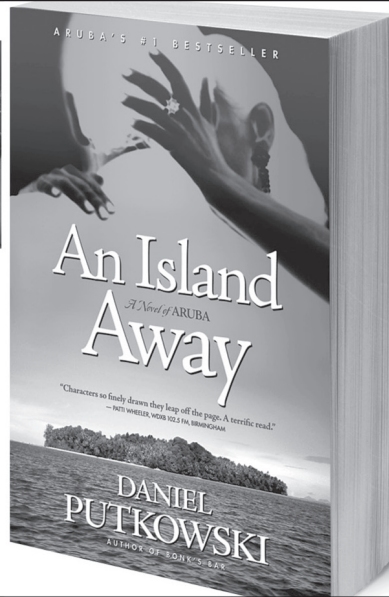
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GroenLinks backs new status for BES islands

THE HAGUE--The green, left party GroenLinks wholeheartedly supports a new status for Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius as "public entities" of the Netherlands. But the opposition party did voice some concerns about the social facilities for the people of these islands.

Members of the GroenLinks faction in the Second Chamber, in their response to the package of legislation to integrate Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius, the BES islands, in the Netherlands, mainly posed questions on aspects of social security.

They asked to amend a specific article of the Adjustment Law proposal dealing with social facilities.

"In many of the debates with the State Secretary of Kingdom Relations, members of GroenLinks have always made a case to implement similar social facilities for citizens of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba."

GroenLinks said it wasn't happy with the fact that in the current draft legislation "only a few technical adaptations" seemed to have been made. "In what way will government realise the desire of matching the level of social services in the Netherlands and on the BES islands?"

The party asked for a clear overview of the effects of the Adjustment Law on medical care, education and social security on the BES islands.

"GroenLinks would like to be informed what advantages this law will have for citizens of the BES islands."

The faction specifically asked about social aid (onderstand) and stated that the legislation should provide for this. "The members feel the need to receive a state of affairs on negotiations between the Netherlands and the BES

islands about giving content to the arrangement of onderstand. Will these agreements be taken up in a General Measure of Government (Algemene Maatregel van Bestuur)?" GroenLinks further asked about a planning to gradually replace the current Antillean legislation by Dutch legislation. "It seems desirable to implement Dutch regular

legislation for the BES islands as public entities."

The party complimented the involved Ministries, politicians and their civil servants for the immense work of preparing legislation for the BES islands. "It must have been sheer drudgery to go through all applicable legislation on the consequences of the future constitutional relations." □

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*** Human Hints Daily ***

Remove Your Roadblocks

Yesterday we discussed the concept of aligning different aspects of your self toward a common goal. Today we will discuss common roadblocks and resistance that we create and use for self-sabotage.

If we don't manifest our desires, it is because we don't want to, and we don't want to because we have developed a negative association with living the life of our dreams and getting everything we've always wanted. We must train ourselves to associate abundance with good feelings. Yes, this is as easy as it sounds.

One of the most potent poisons to success is guilt. When some people think of living the life of their dreams, they think of their friends and family who are locked in struggle, and they start to feel guilty. They will

get the urge to do things that will insure that they stay locked in struggle with those they love. To snap out of guilt, we must remember that people lock themselves in struggle by unconscious choice. Just because they choose to remain stuck, doesn't mean we have to sacrifice the rest of our lives for them. Everyone is different and everyone chooses their own destiny. The logic helps drive away the negative association of guilt.

To add a positive association, we must realize that our own success will help others to see that struggle is not necessary. They will see that we have created our own lives, and we can show them exactly how we did it. This way, our success will help others, so it becomes a positive thing. By removing our fear of leaving others behind, we ultimately help

them achieve success.

The ultimate obstacle to our success is fear. It can permeate and stifle every aspect of our lives without our even knowing it. It is natural to fear the unknown, and if we've struggled our entire lives, it can be very threatening to think of getting everything we've ever wanted. What would we do with ourselves if our survival didn't depend on working from dawn till dusk? You can disempower this particular fear by knowing and trusting yourself. Know that you will find plenty of worthy challenges to strive for, and trust that you will have the courage to act toward pursuing your new goals.

Fear is the underlying cause of all pain, anger and resistance, so when you feel these things, ask your ego what it is afraid of. What pain does it associate with your success? Once you discover this, think of the pain that not achieving

your goals will cause you. Chances are, not achieving your goals will bring far greater pain than achieving them. One of ego's primary goals is to avoid pain, so once your ego understands that not acting will bring more pain than taking action, it will gracefully move out of your way and will actually help you in your efforts.

Don't feel guilty about your success. Your success can only help those you love. Don't be afraid of getting everything you've ever wanted. There will always be something for you to strive for. The kind of people who create their own reality are the kind of people who never run out of goals to achieve.

The first step in overcoming your fears and self-sabotaging roadblocks, is to become aware of them. When you are aware of them, you can turn them around, and release them effortlessly and gracefully,

without painful resistance.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought.

HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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**JUST SAY
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Aging Mind



By: Dr. Carlos Viana

My father, Manuel, who died at age ninety, was a self-educated entrepreneur here in Aruba and an inspiration to many. A "health nut" already before World War II he espoused throughout his life the benefits of drinking water, eating sensibly, and exercising. My mother, Nora reading one of my nutritional articles fittingly identified my father's advice emerging through my words. Indisputably, my father, Manuel was a primary role model for me.

Daily I think about my father as I evaluate older patients. My father at age ninety continued to enjoy robust physical health. Unfortunately, mental deterioration, memory loss, and disorientation robbed Manuel of part of the joy of his final years. Manuel although living a seeming healthy lifestyle spent years absorbing heavy metals. In spite of his commitment to health, the Viana garage near the oil refinery and other toxins little understood at

the time were slowly building up in Manuel's brain.

Dementia derived from Latin, from the stem "dement"-, literally means "mind away," identifies the deterioration of intellectual functions such as memory that can occur while other brain functions such as those controlling movement and the senses are retained. The brain, a very sensitive organ has limited ways for protecting itself. There are various conditions which can produce at any age a demented brain. These include: Alcoholism, thyroid metabolic disease, diabetes, AIDS related dementia, from cancer chemotherapy treatments, "mad cow" or Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, traumatic head injury, toxic metals, and all degenerative brain diseases like Parkinson's, Alzheimer's.

After age 65, this mental deterioration is called senile dementia. Many allopathic doctors erroneously believe that dementia in older patients is a normal aspect of aging. Part of our social reality is that we have an institutionalized disregard, for individuals who are older than seventy five.

Senile dementia is the impairment of intelligence shown by the taking of rash, foolish decisions, the stereotypical "silly old woman". Your parent may become childishly impulsive or erratic. She may show difficulty grasping new ideas or accepting new situations, like developing a resistance to medical care. Older people's patterns of thinking becomes regressive and rigid - the stereotypical "stubborn old

man". Impairment of memory is well recognized and often wrongly considered to be the only symptom of a dementia. The short term memory is affected first with preservation of long term memory for some time.

Poor concentration due to other problems such as depression or anxiety can give a false impression of severity of memory loss. Emotional instability is frequently seen where tremendous anger can be produced from a trivial incident such as failure to tie a shoelace. Many times social inhibitions are forgotten and may produce aggressive or promiscuous behavior. Near the end of life the parent suffering from dementia can deteriorate in moral standards and personal hygiene.

Senile dementia is not normal nor the only symptom of aging. The most devastating problem facing your brain is what medically is known as a cerebrovascular accident, which is any physical event in your brain, for example, cerebral hemorrhage, that may lead to a stroke. A stroke is a sudden blockage or rupture of a blood vessel in the brain resulting in tissue death in that part of the brain.

Another problems contributing to aging is atherosclerosis, in which areas of cholesterol, glucose, and toxic metal deposits form on the inner surfaces of the arteries obstruct blood flow. Causes of damage include elevated triglycerides, high blood pressure, tobacco smoke, alcohol and other drug

abused, and diabetes.

The common denominator in all these problems is chronic inflammation. Inflammation is your body's natural response to outside invaders it perceives as threats. It is a process in which your body's white blood cells protect you from foreign substances such as bacteria and viruses. However, when your body is in a chronic state of inflammation, the inflammation can lodge in your muscles, joints and tissues. In fact, chronic inflammation is a leading cause of many diseases, both physical and neurological, including dementia and heart disease.

Professionally, I believe chronic inflammation is related to absorption of toxic heavy metals. At the Viana Healing Center, we use hair to test levels, and then prepare a detoxification plan as needed. The modern diet which is high unsaturated fats and low in antioxidants is also a major contributing factor to aging. We all know that the modern diet is highly processed and manufactured. Natural supplementation with antioxidants like vitamin C, E, and essential oils like Omega 3, 6 and 9 are anti-inflammatory. Lecithin produces the neurotransmitter acetylcholine which enables communication and signal-transmission between brain cells, thus improving memory. SAME was associated with an improvement of depression and metabolizes into Glutathione, the body's greatest antioxidant that protects the brain. D-Ribose, a simple sugar has been shown to boost levels

of energy, help muscles recover from physical activity and helps reduce stiffness in aging bodies.

Including exercise that uses your body, mind and spirit, like my salsa classes with Phyllis are a great way to keep in shape.

Get The Point! Don't wait until you mind is going, going, gone. Begin early to protect yourself. Growing older does not have to mean having your mind "go away". Having a demented parent triples your chances of developing this problem yourself. Make an appointment today to learn how to protect your future brain. NOW at Rejuvenate Medi-Spa: Mon. afternoons, 5 min. from the hotels! Call for appointment.

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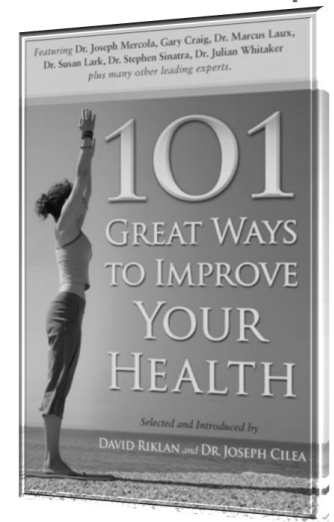
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Stocks gain on rising commodities, takeover news

By TIM PARADIS,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Rising commodities prices and stirrings of corporate takeovers are making investors more optimistic about the economy. Stocks rose for the third straight day Tuesday as gold topped \$1,000 an ounce for the first time since February and oil jumped more than \$3 a barrel. The rising prices helped lift material and energy stocks. The gains in commodities came as the dollar fell and investors looked for more ways to profit from an improving economy.

“The commodities stocks were driving it today,” said Joe Saluzzi, co-head of equity trading at Themis Trading LLC.

Talk of a revival in corporate dealmaking also boosted the mood on Wall Street. A takeover bid from Kraft Foods Inc. for rival Cadbury PLC — even though Cadbury rejected it — combined with a big phone deal in England lifted hopes that takeover activity could be picking up. Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom said they planned to combine their British mobile phone units to form that country’s biggest mobile operator.

A weekend pledge by the world’s 20 biggest economies to support the global recovery with stimulus efforts also helped keep the market’s tone positive.

George F. Shipp, chief investment officer at Scott & Stringfellow in Virginia Beach, Va., said the takeover talk surrounding Cadbury underscores the fact that some companies are faring better than others.

“Chocolate is less susceptible to whatever is going to happen in mortgages and banking and unemployment,” Shipp said.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose

56.07, or 0.6 percent, to 9,497.34. The index is up 217 points, or 2.3 percent, over three days.

The broader Standard & Poor’s 500 index rose 8.99, or 0.9 percent, to 1,025.39, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 18.99, or 0.9 percent, to 2,037.77.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 5.88, or 1 percent, to 576.38.

Bond prices fell, pushing yields higher. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 3.48 percent from 3.45 percent late Friday.

The dollar fell against other major currencies and gold — which is often bought as a safe haven asset — topped \$1,000 an ounce before settling just short of that mark.

Crude oil rose \$3.08 to settle at \$71.10 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Tom Phillips, president of TS Phillips Investments in Oklahoma City, said investors are buying gold as they buy stocks because they are nervous about the economy and rising deficits but don’t want to miss more gains in the stock market. The S&P 500 index has jumped 50 percent from a 12-year low in early March.

“It is a flight to safety. It’s kind of like everyone is hedging their bets. They want to be in the market because they don’t want to miss out, but they’re spooked,” he said.

The gains in gold came as other commodities rose.

Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. rose \$2, or 3 percent, to \$68, while aluminum producer Alcoa Inc. rose 42 cents, or 3.5 percent, to \$12.60. Oilfield services company Schlumberger Ltd. rose \$2.23, or 4 percent, to \$58.10.

Meanwhile, General Electric Co. led the 30 stocks that make up the Dow



Specialist Donald M. Vaneck, left, works the trading floor at the New York Stock Exchange Tuesday, Sept.

8, 2009 (AP Photo/David Karp)

industrials, rising 63 cents, or 4.5 percent, \$14.50, after J.P. Morgan upgraded the company’s shares saying that the market had already priced in most problems with the conglomerate’s lending arm.

Among stocks moving on takeover talk, Cadbury jumped \$14.42, or 38.5 percent, to \$51.88. Kraft fell \$1.65, or 5.9 percent, to \$26.45.

Three stocks rose for every one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange, where consolidated volume came to 5.4 billion shares compared with 4.1 billion traded Friday.

Britain’s FTSE 100 and Germany’s DAX index rose 0.3 percent, while France’s CAC-40 advanced 0.2 percent. Japan’s Nikkei stock average gained 0.7 percent. □




Don't drink &

DRIVE

Oprah Winfrey fans gather for Michigan Avenue show

By CARYN ROUSSEAU,
Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO—Thousands of Oprah Winfrey's fans gathered on Michigan Avenue to help the talk show celebrate the 24th season of her show with a public taping on Tuesday that was to include the Black Eyed Peas and Rascal Flatts.

Diane Stimson lined up at 5:30 a.m., nearly 12 hours before the taping was set to begin, and by the afternoon the 43-year-old Chicagoan was dancing behind a metal barrier as she waited. She called Winfrey an inspiration.

"She worked her way to the top, and she made it," Stimson said. "She gives us all hope."

Winfrey's production company, Harpo Productions, has said it expects "thousands" of people to attend the event, which will also feature Jennifer Hudson, James Taylor and magician Criss Angel. The company said it would cover all costs for police, paramedics and sanitation at the outdoor taping. "The Oprah Winfrey Show" normally is taped at the Harpo studios on Chicago's near west side.

Several people said they wanted to come because of the difficulty in getting tickets

for the regular tapings.

Gloria Jones, 60, of Chicago, said she was excited because "I never get a chance to get a ticket, and I figured this is the closest I could get."

The special outdoor event will take place on a three-block stretch of Michigan Avenue near the Chicago River and have two blocks of audience members. It will shut down the famous downtown street — known as the Magnificent Mile for its upscale shopping — to traffic from early Monday through Wednesday morning.

The taping is free and open to the public. General admission will close when the event reaches capacity. By midafternoon, one block of the audience area was full.

Chicago Mayor Richard Daley has supported the taping, saying it will give the city global exposure and create jobs.

It also comes just weeks before the International Olympic Committee will announce if Chicago will have the winning bid to host the 2016 Summer Games. During last year's season premiere of Winfrey's show, 6,000 fans crammed into Chicago's Millennium Park as she celebrated more than 170 American Olympic medalists from the Beijing Games. □



Oprah Winfrey (R) hugs Fergie of The Black Eyed Peas after a performance during a taping celebrating the 24th season of The Oprah Winfrey Show in Chicago September 8, 2009. The show airs on September 10.

REUTERS/Frank Polich (UNITED STATES ENTERTAINMENT SOCIETY)



In this film publicity image released by Anchor Bay Entertainment, Michael Douglas is shown in a scene from, 'Beyond A Reasonable Doubt.'

(AP Photo/Anchor Bay Entertainment)

By CHRISTY LEMIRE,
AP Movie Critic

LOS ANGELES — Beyond its generic, forgettable title, "Beyond a Reasonable Doubt" feels like some throwaway 1980s TV movie, with its implausible premise, dizzying twists, cheesy montages and melodramatic score.

Actually, its origins go back even further — it's a remake of a 1956 thriller, one of the last movies Fritz Lang directed — but in modernizing the story, writer-director Peter Hyams

("End of Days") merely makes it feel rushed and insignificant. Hyams gets very little right here: not journalism, not romance, not even fundamental things like pacing and suspense, which are so crucial to making this genre work. He even manages to squander Michael Douglas in a juicy role as a slimy district attorney eyeing the Louisiana governorship. Douglas appears so infrequently, his villainy seems far less menacing than it should be.

Review: 'Reasonable Doubt' like '80s TV movie

Instead, "Beyond a Reasonable Doubt" feels like a vehicle for hunky Jesse Metcalfe, who stars as ambitious TV news reporter C.J. Nichols. We know we're in some kind of time warp when we see the bustling Shreveport newsroom where he works — as part of the station's special investigative unit, no less.

C.J. suspects prosecutor Mark Hunter has been tampering with DNA evidence to secure convictions because his record is just too perfect, so he sets himself up as the suspect in a prostitute's murder. His goofball producer and sidekick, Corey (Joel David Moore), documents the process of gathering circumstantial evidence — a mask, a knife — to prove C.J.'s innocence later. Not that we're giving

too much away here, but naturally, his plan doesn't work out the way he'd hoped.

As if that weren't ridiculous enough, C.J. also happens to fall for assistant district attorney Ella Crystal (Amber Tamblyn), even as he's trying to expose her boss. Their relationship — a cursory sequence of gauzily filmed dinners and chaste rolls in the hay — never feels believable, though, so the potential emotional consequences of his actions don't register.

Nothing about C.J. does, come to think of it. He keeps haranguing his buddy to stick with the story, tries to convince him that it will win them a Pulitzer Prize, but he's never fleshed-out enough to make his daring scheme seem substantial. The erratic way "Beyond a Reasonable Doubt" is edited

doesn't help his cause, either. Dialogue has no flow, cutaways come from nowhere. Perhaps Hyams was hoping to amplify the energy, create a sense of movement or tension by cutting so frequently. But he also uses this tactic during quiet, intimate moments between C.J. and Ella, which is just distracting.

In his few scenes, Douglas struts and schmoozes, charms and cajoles, working jurors in the courtroom and reporters on the courthouse steps with equal ease. It's a role he could have played in his sleep, in a movie that works awfully hard to keep you awake. "Beyond a Reasonable Doubt," an Anchor Bay Films release, is rated PG-13 for a sex scene, violence and brief strong language. Running time: 105 minutes. One and a half stars out of four. □

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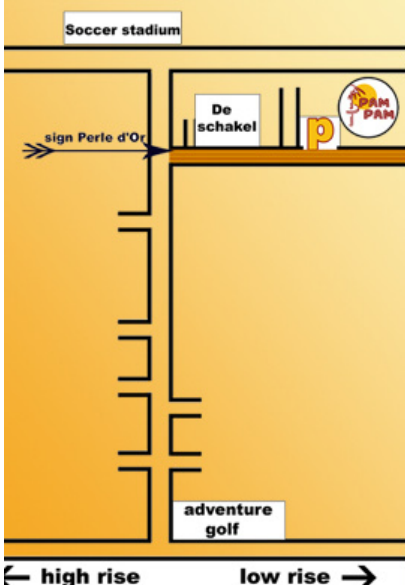
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President Barack Obama smiles before his education speech, Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009, at Wakefield High School in Arlington, Va.

Associated Press

Obama steers clear of politics in school pep talk

JULIE PACE,

Associated Press Writer

ARLINGTON, Virginia (AP) — President Barack Obama steered clear of politics Tuesday in a pep talk to students that sparked controversy among conservatives, who accused him of trying to indoctrinate America's children.

Presidents often visit schools, and Obama was not the first one to offer a back-to-school address aimed at millions of students in every grade. Yet several conservative organizations and many concerned parents warned Obama was trying to sell his political agenda.

That concern was caused in part by an accompanying administration lesson plan encouraging students to "help the president," which the White House later revised.

In his speech, Obama challenged the nation's students to take pride and ownership in their education — and stick with it even if they don't like every class or must overcome tough circumstances at home.

"Every single one of you has something that you're good at. Every single one of you has something to offer," Obama told students at Wakefield High School in Arlington, Virginia and children watching his speech on television in schools across the country. "And you have a responsibility to yourself to discover what that is."

Obama, accompanied by Education Secretary Arne Duncan, met with some 40 students

gathered in a school library before the speech carried on ESPN and on the White House Web site.

"When I was your age," Obama said, "I was a little bit of a goof-off. My main goal was to get on the varsity basketball team and have fun."

The uproar over his speech followed Obama across the Potomac River, as his motorcade was greeted by a small band of protesters. One carried a sign exclaiming: "Mr. President, stay away from our kids."

During his meeting inside, one young person asked why the country doesn't have universal health insurance. "I think we need it. I think we can do it," Obama replied. The president said the country can afford to insure all Americans and that doing so will save money in the long run.

Duncan acknowledged Tuesday that some of the prepared guidance for school officials included a suggestion that students could compose essays stating how they could help support Obama — an idea the education secretary acknowledged was wrongheaded.

In his conversation with the Wakefield students, Obama said that not having a father at home "forced me to grow up faster."

One young person asked the president whom he would choose to dine with if he could make only one such selection.

"Gandhi," Obama replied.

Continued on Next Page

Dutch royals visit New York 400 yrs. after Henry Hudson



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, right, and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, left, accompany Crown Princess Maxima and Crown Prince Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands aboard the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum, Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009 in New York. The royals are in town to participate in the festivities celebrating the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's arrival in New York Harbor in September 1609.

Associated Press

MICHAEL HILL

Associated Press Writer

WEST POINT, New York (AP) — Dutch Prince Willem-Alexander and his wife, Princess Maxima, met dignitaries up and down the Hudson River, lunched with military cadets and lauded their country's long friendship with the United States as they marked the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's historic voyage.

Continued on Page B3



Afghan presidential candidate and current President Hamid Karzai casts his vote at a polling station in Kabul, Afghanistan, Thursday, Aug. 20, 2009.

Associated Press

Karzai nears outright win; Afghan recount ordered

See Page B6

Blagojevich: Words on FBI tape out of context



In this April 21, 2009 file photo, ousted Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich is seen leaving federal court in Chicago. On Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009, Blagojevich began a media blitz for his new 264-page book, 'The Governor' being released Tuesday.

Associated Press

By **MIKE ROBINSON**
AP Legal Affairs Writer

CHICAGO — Former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich said Tuesday that statements he made on secret FBI wiretap tapes were taken out of context by prosecutors and that he might try to call senators and a top White House official as witnesses at his racketeering and fraud trial to back his version of events. Blagojevich told The Associated Press in a phone interview that he might even try to subpoena President Barack Obama as a witness at his trial, but the court is unlikely to compel the

president to testify.

The former governor, whose trial is scheduled to begin June 3, said he expects to be cleared of charges that he tried to sell or trade Obama's former Senate seat for campaign money or a high-paying job for his wife or himself.

"I will be vindicated because I haven't done anything wrong," Blagojevich said.

He said he sometimes stays awake and worries that justice — as he sees it — won't prevail and he will go to prison.

"I think about it in the wee hours, in the witching hour — I'm only human," Blagojevich said. He described the ordeal he and his family have been going through since his arrest last December as "this nightmare."

Blagojevich said he is not tempted to ask his attorneys seek a plea deal that could cut years of any prison sentence.

"Never," he said, raising his voice. The former governor spoke by phone from New York, where he was promoting his book, "The Governor." He started the day with an interview with WLS radio in Chicago and an appearance on NBC's "Today" show.

According to prosecutors, the FBI secretly recorded Blagojevich last November saying he wanted something in exchange for the Senate seat. "I've got this thing and it's (deleted) golden, and uh, uh, I'm just not giving it up

for (deleted) nothing," he is quoted as saying. He was later recorded saying "I want to make money" off the seat, prosecutors said.

As he argued in his book, Blagojevich said his words were taken out of context, and that he was hoping to appoint Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan to the Senate seat in return for a deal with her father, Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan, D-Chicago.

Under that plan, Michael Madigan would push a public works bill designed to create thousands of jobs and health care legislation through the state House, while guaranteeing there would be no tax increase for Illinois residents. In exchange, his daughter would get the Senate seat. In his book, Blagojevich said he told his chief of staff, John Harris, to start implementing the plan the day before his arrest.

Harris also was charged in the indictment and has agreed to cooperate with the government. He is expected to be a witness at Blagojevich's trial. The former governor was asked if he thought Harris would support his story on cross examination.

"If he tells the truth, that's what happened," Blagojevich said. Blagojevich said he might subpoena White House chief of staff Rahm Emanuel, Senate Democrat

Majority Leader Harry Reid and Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee Chairman Robert Menendez to back up his version of what happened.

He said he discussed his plan with all of them.

Another possible witness he said would be former House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill. Blagojevich said in his book that he was surprised to find out that one of his chief fundraisers, Tony Rezko, was involved in corruption. Rezko has been convicted of taking part in a \$7 million payoff scheme and is now believed to be cooperating with federal prosecutors.

Blagojevich was asked if he had been naive in bringing Rezko into his circle of advisers after the real estate developer raised campaign money for him.

"That is correct — I was naive about Tony Rezko," Blagojevich said. "But so was Barack Obama." He noted that Rezko raised money for Obama's campaigns and took part in a real estate deal that resulted in Obama buying his Chicago home.

Blagojevich said his wife, Patti, was within the bounds of ethics to accept thousands of dollars in real estate commissions from Rezko because she supplied professional services and the relationship began before he became governor. □



Sotomayor takes her place on high court bench

WASHINGTON (AP) — Justice Sonia Sotomayor took her seat Tuesday as the first Latina on the U.S. Supreme Court in front of a packed courtroom that included President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden.

The ceremony was just for show. Sotomayor and the rest of the court return Wednesday for the argument in a major case about campaign finance law. Sotomayor, 55, last month became the third woman to be a justice. She took the oath again Tuesday in a ceremony by which the court formally welcomes its newest member. Attorney General Eric Holder presented Sotomayor's ivory-colored commission from Obama. Chief Justice John Roberts administered the oath of office, after which Sotomayor took her seat at the end of the bench to Roberts' left, next to Justice Stephen Breyer. All her colleagues were in attendance.

Sotomayor wore a white, decorative collar that was given to her by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and a new robe presented by her law clerks in New York.

Among the onlookers in the courtroom were her mother, Celina, and brother, Juan, the Puerto Rican singer Ricky Martin, retired Justice David Souter, the man she replaced, members of Congress, federal judges and former top Justice Department officials.

After the ceremony, Sotomayor and Roberts descended the steps in front of the court to applause from a small crowd of tourists and well-wishers. The two justices briefly posed for photographs.

"Tell me when you've had enough," she said, before her family joined her for another round of pictures. □



President Barack Obama, accompanied by Education Secretary Arne Duncan, talks to students prior to delivering a speech on education at Wakefield High School in Arlington, Va., Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009.

PEP TALK

Continued from Page B1

"He's somebody I find a lot of inspiration in. He inspired Dr. (Martin Luther) King" with his message of nonviolence.

Associated Press

"He ended up doing so much and changed the world just by the power of his ethics," Obama said of the inspirational leader Mahatma Gandhi. At another point, Obama told the students that "a lot of people are counting on me."

Obama proceeded later with the speech the White House had released a day early, virtually unchanged. The school he chose as the setting for his talk — Wakefield — is the most economically and racially diverse school in Arlington County, according to the Department of Education. Nearly 40 percent of graduating seniors pass an Advanced Placement test. That's more than twice the national average.

"There is no excuse for not trying" he said in the speech. He said students must be individually responsible for their education, and that it's important to work hard, pay attention in school and complete assignments.

"Whatever you resolve to do, I want you to commit to it," Obama said. "The truth is, being successful is hard. You won't love every subject that you study. You won't click with every teacher that you have."

"At the end of the day, we can have the most dedicated teachers, the most supportive parents and the best schools in the world, and none of it will matter unless all of you fulfill your responsibilities," the president said. □

DUTCH ROYALS

Continued from Page B1

The crown prince of Orange and his wife on Tuesday traced the path that Hudson's ship, the Half Moon, made four centuries ago — albeit on a helicopter and accompanied by Dutch media. Events in New York City on Tuesday morning and evening bookended visits upriver in West Point and Albany.

The royal couple watched a flotilla of ships, including a replica of the Half Moon, sail past in New York City while a Dutch naval ship blasted a 21-gun salute. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Mayor Michael Bloomberg welcomed them to New York.

Hudson was an Englishman working for the Dutch in September 1609 when he sailed up the river that would later bear his name. The Half Moon (called the Halve Maen in Dutch) made it to present-day Albany before heading back.

"We can only speculate about the feelings of a small group of men on board of the Halve Maen when they first arrived on these shores exactly 400 years ago," said the Crown Prince. "They must have been struck by the beauty of these islands and by the riches they behold."

About 200 people came out to watch the ceremony on the deck of the Intrepid, a World War II aircraft carrier that is now part of a museum.

Standing on the deck, Annemiek Rademaker-Matte wore a navy blue "Holland"

T-shirt with a picture of the country's famous windmills and was sporting an orange hat and jacket.

"I feel Dutch. Very Dutch," said the 56-year-old native of Soest, a town in the central Netherlands. "Even though I'm an American citizen, my heart is very much Dutch. I'm proud of that heritage. I'm proud of what Holland accomplished during those years."

The royal couple then flew roughly 40 miles to the U.S. Military Academy, where they sat down in the sprawling mess hall for a baked ziti lunch with cadets. Maxima, dressed in a red suit, was conspicuous in the sea of gray-clad cadets.

They reviewed cadets marching into the mess hall and were given a standing ovation when they were introduced inside. The prince told the future U.S. Army officers about the two countries' shared democratic values and long history.

"As a Navy officer, I am proud and honored and a bit scared to be here in front of you," he told the cadets.

After a tour accompanied by West Point Superintendent Lt. Gen. Franklin "Buster" Hagenbeck, the couple and their retinue took a helicopter to Albany.

They were to meet with New York Gov. David Paterson, Albany Mayor Jerry Jennings and tour a quadricentennial exhibit at the State Museum before heading back to New York City. □



A replica of Henry Hudson's ship Half Moon makes its way up the Hudson River during a ceremony on Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009 in New York in which Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg welcomed Dutch royals Willem-Alexander, Crown Prince of Orange, and his wife, Princess Maxima to New York for the 400th anniversary of Henry Hudson's voyage up the river that now bears his name.

Associated Press



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Fines proposed for going without health insurance



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Calif., accompanied by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nev., speaks to reporters outside of the West Wing of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009, after a meeting with President Barack Obama regarding health care reform.

By **RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR**

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Americans would be fined up to \$3,800 for failing to buy health insurance under a plan that circulated in Congress on Tuesday as divisions among Democrats undercut President Barack Obama's effort to regain traction on his health care overhaul.

As Obama talked strategy

with Democratic leaders at the White House, the one idea that most appeals to his party's liberal base lost ground in Congress. Prospects for a government-run plan to compete with private insurers sank as a leading moderate Democrat said he could no longer support the idea.

The fast-moving developments put Obama in a box. As a candidate, he opposed fines to

force individuals to buy health insurance, and he supported setting up a public insurance plan. On Tuesday, fellow Democrats publicly begged to differ on both ideas.

Democratic congressional leaders put on a bold front as they left the White House after their meeting with the president.

"We're re-energized; we're ready to do health care reform," said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., insisted the public plan is still politically viable. "I believe that a public option will be essential to our passing a bill in the House of Representatives," she said.

After a month of contentious forums, Americans were seeking specifics from the president in his speech to a joint session of Congress on Wednesday night. So were his fellow Democrats, divided on how best to solve the problem of the nation's nearly 50 million uninsured.

The latest proposal: a ten-year, \$900-billion bipartisan compromise that Sen. Max

Baucus, D-Mont., a moderate who heads the influential Finance Committee, was trying to broker. It would guarantee coverage for nearly all Americans, regardless of medical problems.

But the Baucus plan also includes the fines that Obama has rejected. In what appeared to be a sign of tension, White House spokesman Robert Gibbs pointedly noted that the administration had not received a copy of the plan before it leaked to lobbyists and news media Tuesday.

The Baucus plan would require insurers to take all applicants, regardless of age or health. But smokers could be charged higher premiums. And 60-year-olds could be charged five times as much for a policy as 20-year-olds. Baucus said Tuesday he's trying to get agreement from a small group of bipartisan negotiators in advance of Obama's speech. "Time is running out very quickly," he said. "I made that very clear to the group."

Some experts consider the \$900-billion price tag a

relative bargain because the country now spends about \$2.5 trillion a year on health care. But it would require hefty fees on insurers, drug companies and others in the health care industry to help pay for it.

Just as auto coverage is now mandatory in nearly all states, Baucus would require that all Americans get health insurance once the system is overhauled. Penalties for failing to do so would start at \$750 a year for individuals and \$1,500 for families. Households making more than three times the federal poverty level — about \$66,000 for a family of four — would face the maximum fines. For families, it would be \$3,800, and for individuals, \$950.

Baucus would offer tax credits to help pay premiums for households making up to three times the poverty level, and for small employers paying about average middle-class wages. People working for companies that offer coverage could avoid the fines by signing up.

The fines pose a dilemma for Obama. As a candidate, the president campaigned hard against making health insurance a requirement, and fining people for not getting it. "Punishing families who can't afford health care to begin with just doesn't make sense," he said during his party's primaries. At the time, he proposed mandatory insurance only for children.

White House officials have since backed away somewhat from Obama's opposition to mandated coverage for all, but there's no indication that Obama would support fines.

One idea that Obama championed during and since the campaign — a government insurance option — appeared to be sinking fast.

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., told reporters a Medicare-like plan for middle-class Americans and their families isn't an essential part of legislation for him. Hoyer's comments came shortly after a key Democratic moderate said he could no longer back a bill that includes a new government plan. □

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Boy hidden behind wall remains in state custody

JIM SUHR

Associated Press Writer

BENTON, Illinois (AP) — A 6-year-old boy whose mother is accused of hiding him in a crawl space for nearly two years whenever visitors arrived will remain in state custody while he gets counseling meant to eventually reunite him with his father.

Franklin County Circuit Judge Kyle Vantrease turned away Michael Chekevdia's request to take temporary custody of his son immediately, ruling Tuesday that Richard Chekevdia needs help to gradually process his "traumatic" ordeal.

Ricky and his mother, 30-year-old Shannon Wilfong, vanished in November 2007. They were found Friday hiding in a small crawl space in his grandmother's two-story home in southern Illinois.

Vantrease scheduled a Nov. 23 hearing to resolve the custody issue, suggesting that by then the boy's progress in counseling and efforts backed by state child-welfare workers to reunify him with his dad could be measured. Until then, the boy will remain with a relative of Michael Chekevdia.

The judge refused — with the state's blessings — any access to him by his mother, who often sobbed during the 75-minute hearing and insisted she'd done nothing wrong.

"You're making me sound bad. It was not like that at all," she interjected at one point.

Wilfong, 30, made her first court appearance earlier Tuesday on a felony abduction

charge, telling a judge she planned to hire an attorney. She remained jailed on \$42,500 bond and is scheduled for a preliminary hearing Sept. 23. The grandmother, 51-year-old Diane Dobbs, is free on bond after being charged with aiding and abetting.

Dobbs has insisted Wilfong had little choice but to flee with the boy to protect him. "We were on our own and we had to do what we had to do and that was make sure our grandson was safe," she told ABC's "Good Morning America" on Monday.

Michael Chekevdia has rejected allegations of abuse, as did state child-welfare officials and the judge in court Tuesday.

"I absolutely have no concerns about the father," testified Jan McGraw, a state child-protection supervisor.

Chekevdia, a 48-year-old former police officer who's an Illinois Army National Guard lieutenant colonel, won temporary custody of his son shortly before the boy and his mother — Chekevdia's former girlfriend — disappeared.

Chekevdia said he long suspected his son was being hidden by Dobbs, although there were no signs of him when the home was searched with her consent. Wilfong was charged in December 2007 with abducting the boy, but couldn't be found.

For much of the time since, Chekevdia said, the windows of Dobbs' home were blocked off by drawn shades or other items.

Stacy Kinter, an Illinois

State Police special agent, testified Tuesday that police who stormed Dobbs' Elkhart house with a search warrant Friday found Dobbs hastily trying to close the entry to the crawl space.

Inside the plywood-floored confines — roughly 5 feet by 12, hidden behind a wall by a dresser — searchers found Wilfong and the boy, clad only in underwear and a T-shirt.

He appeared "very pale, like he'd not been in the sun," Kinter said, reinforcing the boy's claims that for virtually during all of his seclusion he was not allowed outside. Moments after being found, Kinter said, the boy "seemed very excited to be playing in the grass and outside."

Witnesses testified that there was no evidence that the boy attended school or got medical attention after the abduction.

Angela Anderson, an investigator for the state child-



Michael Chekevdia of Royalton, Ill., talks with reporters Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009, outside of the Franklin County Courthouse in Benton, Ill. Richard Chekevdia, a 6-year-old boy whose mother is accused of hiding him in a crawl space for nearly two years whenever visitors arrived will remain in state custody while he gets counseling meant to eventually reunite him with his father.

Associated Press

welfare agency, testified that a counselor who examined the boy briefly said he had a speech impediment, had limited reading skills and was "socially lacking, socially

behind."

"He referred to (his dad) as a monster," Anderson said. "I can only speculate he'd heard that from the people he'd been around the past two years." □

Six boys accused of beating sleeping immigrant

RUSSELL CONTRERAS

Associated Press Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Six boys were charged with severely beating a Guatemalan immigrant with bricks, bottles and rocks as he slept near railroad tracks, an attack that civil rights groups decried Tuesday as "hateful."

Derrek Shulman, New England regional director of the Anti-Defamation League, said the July beating of Damian Merida was an example of how immigrants are singled out for attacks.

Police say six boys, ages 11 to 14, beat the 30-year-old Merida in July in Lynn, a city 10 miles (16 kilometers) northeast of Boston. Merida was hospitalized at Massachusetts General Hospital for a month with serious head injuries. Merida's brother said the attack caused brain damage.

In a statement, police said the Lynn boys targeted Merida because of his ethnicity. Police also said they were looking into the assault of another Guatemalan immigrant and "the possibility that the attack was not the first perpetrated by these youths."

The boys, who have not been named, have pleaded not delinquent to charges of civil rights violations, attempted murder and assault with intent to maim. All but one were released and ordered to wear electronic monitoring bracelets. A 14-year-old remains in state Youth Services custody. Three teenagers and an 11-year-old were suspended indefinitely from their middle schools last week.

Diego Portillo, president of the Boston-based Latino Professional Network, said the boy's young ages make the alleged crime more shocking. □

Karzai nears outright win; Afghan recount ordered



An Afghan election worker sort out results before entering them into a computer at the election result tally center of Independent Election Commission office, in Kabul, Afghanistan, Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009. The U.N.-backed commission charged with investigating Afghanistan’s presidential election said Tuesday that it has found “clear and convincing evidence of fraud” in the results and ordered a re-count of ballots from questionable polling stations.

Associated Press

HEIDI VOGT

Associated Press Writer

KABUL (AP) — A U.N.-backed commission Tuesday ordered a recount of tainted ballots from the Afghan presidential vote, saying it had “convincing evidence of fraud,” even as President Hamid Karzai for the first time surpassed the threshold needed to avoid a run-off and win re-election.

Doubts are growing about the Aug. 20 election’s credibility, a key step in U.S. and European efforts to strengthen the Afghan government and bolster declining support for the almost eight-year war against a spreading Taliban insurgency.

The U.N.-backed Electoral Complaints Commission, an independent body with the power to investigate and nullify fraudulent votes, ordered a recount Tuesday at polling stations where it had found “clear and convincing evidence of fraud.”

That means that Karzai could still have votes taken away from him. More than 720 major fraud charges have been lodged with the complaints commission.

Daoud Ali Najafi, chief electoral officer of the Afghan-run Independent Election Commission which organized the vote, said that recounting votes could take “two months or three months,” suggesting the already overextended election is likely far from over. Officially certified results were due by late September.

With results in from almost 92 percent of the country’s polling sites, Karzai has 54.1 percent of the votes, pushing him over the threshold that would allow him to declare victory outright and avoid a run-off with his main challenger. Abdullah Abdullah.

As more results have come in from the south, where Karzai’s support is strong, former foreign minister Abdullah’s standing has slipped dramatically. He now has 28.3 percent of the vote.

But the credibility of the election is increasingly in question. The Afghan-run election commission has already quarantined ballots from more than 600 polling stations ruled to have been suspected of fraud, out of more than 26,000 stations. The results announced Tuesday do not include those ballots, Najafi said. The U.N.-backed complaint commission will investigate and determine whether they can be counted or be discarded.

So far about 5.7 million votes have been tallied, including 250,000 ballots discarded either because the presidential candidate had officially withdrawn or because of problems with the ballot, such as a vote cast for two candidates.

Accounts from Western officials suggest widespread fraud.

They say ballots have been submitted from hundreds of fake voting sites, especially in southern Afghanistan. The election commission has tallied dozens of voting sites where Karzai won neatly rounded blocks of ballots — 200, 300 and 500 votes — results that one Western official labeled “illogical.”

Afghanistan’s electoral law gives the Election

Complaints Commission broad authorities. The commission can nullify any votes it deems fraudulent, order a re-count of votes or order a new vote entirely. The ECC is comprised of one American, one Canadian and one Dutch national — all appointed by the U.N. — as well as two Afghans appointed by an Afghan human rights organization and the Supreme Court.

The commission did not say how many polling stations would require re-counts, but it noted that it had so far identified some with questionable results in Ghazni, Paktika and Kandahar provinces, and that it is launching investigations in other provinces.

Stations showing 100 percent turnout or with a presidential candidate receiving more than 95 percent of the vote will need to be audited and recounted, the commission said in a statement. Stations with fewer than 100 ballots will be exempt from the process.

Grant Kippen, a Canadian and the chairman of the Electoral Complaints Commission, said the irregularities found include ballots not being folded — meaning they would not fit in a ballot box slot — identically marked ballots and overly large counts at polling stations.

Kippen said he saw a ballot box with 1,700 ballots in Kandahar, even though the maximum should be 600. He stressed that the commission is making its decisions without considering the impact on the election.

“We just take this on a complaint-by-complaint basis, and how that pans out, we really don’t know and in many respects don’t care, because it’s not material to the work that we’re doing,” Kippen said.

Najafi, of the Afghan-run Independent Election Commission, said some vote numbers were “suspicious” and that the results “did not match with the reconciliation form” used to double-check results.


“In some areas the turnout was higher than the number of ballots we sent to the polling station,” Najafi added. He said the ballots have been sent to the U.N.-backed complaint commission, which will decide if any can eventually be included in the official count.

The top U.N. representative in Afghanistan, Kai Eide, called on Afghan election officials to exclude ballots from the vote count that have “evidence of irregularities.”


U.S. Ambassador Karl Eikenberry met with Karzai on Monday and talked about the election, said U.S. Embassy spokeswoman, Caitlin Hayden. She declined to provide further details.

Najafi said he did not have a regional breakdown of the discarded results, but said investigation teams have been sent to Ghazni, Paktika and Kandahar provinces.

A senior Western diplomat alleged Monday that a majority of the votes in three provinces — Kandahar, Paktika and Khost — are fraudulent. Partial returns from each of those provinces heavily favor Karzai. The diplomat spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of his work. Others have said there have been as many as 800 fake polling sites from which tallies came in. □



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U.S., Vietnam open annual Agent Orange meetings

HANOI, Vietnam (AP) — Vietnam urged the U.S. to speed funding for Agent Orange victims Tuesday at the start of the fourth annual meeting on joint efforts to clean up areas that American forces contaminated with the toxic herbicide during the Vietnam War.

U.S. troops sprayed Agent Orange on jungles to deprive Vietnamese troops of ground cover. Vietnam says 1 million to 4 million of its citizens may have suffered serious health consequences.

So far, cleanup efforts have focused on the airport at Danang, a former U.S. air base in central Vietnam where American troops stored, mixed and loaded Agent Orange onto planes.

Agent Orange is perhaps the war's most contentious legacy. After years of disagreement, the two sides began working together in 2006 to address problems linked to the herbicide. A joint study in Danang found dioxin levels were 300 to 400 times higher than internationally accepted limits.

The two sides have already taken temporary steps to contain dioxin, the highly toxic element of Agent Orange, at the Danang site. They are now seeking ways to remove the

dioxin from the soil.

The two sides are also working on joint efforts to help disabled Vietnamese whose health problems might be linked to Agent Orange.

It isn't clear how much the cleanup and health projects will cost.

The Vietnamese government estimates that cleaning Danang and the two other most contaminated Agent Orange hot spots will cost \$58 million. So far, the U.S. government has set aside \$8 million to deal with environmental and health issues linked to Agent Orange.

Nonprofit groups and international donors have contributed funds as well, and more will be needed.

Studies by a Canadian environmental consultant have identified seven Agent Orange hot spots, but Vietnam says as many as two dozen need to be cleaned up.

As this week's meetings opened, the Vietnamese side urged the U.S. to speed up disbursement of money to help the disabled.

"We all know that exposure to dioxin is the cause of serious suffering to the victims," said Nguyen Xuan Cuong, Vietnam's vice minister of natural resources and the environment.



Le Ke Son, co-chair of the Joint Advisory Committee, JAC, left, and Vice Minister Nguyen Xuan Cuong, right, look on during the opening session of the fourth JAC meeting on Agent Orange/ Dioxin in Hanoi, Vietnam, Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009.

The U.S. Veterans Administration provides benefits to U.S. veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange and later developed various cancers.

But the United States argues that more scientific study is needed to understand the link between Agent Orange and various physical disabilities suffered by Vietnamese who live in areas where it was

used.

The Vietnamese say many babies of soldiers exposed to Agent Orange have been born with terrible birth defects.

The two sides have agreed to work together to help Vietnamese who have disabilities, regardless of the cause.

In opening remarks, U.S. Ambassador Michael Michalak said the U.S. has

begun implementing three health projects serving people with disabilities near the Danang airport.

"We're not just talking. We're working together on concrete projects," he said.

Michalak called for the two sides to support "sound science" in order to make decisions about cleaning up dioxin and dealing with its "possible health impacts." □

Associated Press

Eight killed, 3 missing in flash floods in Turkey



Cars are partially submerged near the sea, following flash floods in Selimpasa, a suburb of Istanbul, Turkey, Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009. Flash floods were triggered by torrential rains in the region and have caused deaths, washed away a bridge and caused massive damage to many hundreds of homes and businesses.

SUZAN FRASER

Associated Press Writer

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Flash floods triggered by torrential rains killed eight people and left swaths of land in northwestern Turkey awash Tuesday. At least three people

were reported missing.

Nazmi Coban, the mayor of the town of Saray, said rescue workers there recovered the bodies of a mother and her three daughters, and were still searching for the father who was swept away by floods.

Associated Press

Rescuers also found the bodies of an elderly couple whose house collapsed in the floods, the state-run Anatolia news agency reported. Saray is in Tekirdag province, close to the border with Greece.

Two bodies were discovered in the Istanbul suburb of Catalca, local Mayor Yuksel Ayhan told private NTV television.

Heavy rains that began late Monday washed away bridges and roads, and inundated hundreds of homes in the region. Dozens of farm animals were swept away by gushing waters. Heavy rains

caused floods in Istanbul's seaside Silivri suburb, as well, and two people were reported missing. One was a girl whose mother and sister managed to get out of a car safely before the girl was dragged away by the floods, Istanbul Gov. Muammer Guler said.

In Silivri, police and military helicopters were sent to rescue people confined to their homes, according to television footage. Dozens of cars were swept away, some ending up in the sea. A fire truck could be seen lying on its side.

People climbed on top of rooftops waiting to be rescued, NTV reported.

Two international highways linking Istanbul to the borders with Greece and Bulgaria were closed temporarily, Anatolia reported.

On Monday, a Cambodia-flagged freighter broke into two and sank in heavy storms off the Black Sea coast of Istanbul. All 12 crew members were rescued.

More rain was forecast for the area Wednesday.

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Flash floods triggered by torrential rains killed six people and left swaths of lands in northwestern Turkey awash Tuesday. At least three people were reported missing.

Nazmi Coban, the mayor of the town of Saray, said rescue workers there recovered the bodies of four people, including a 6-year-old girl, and were searching for another

member of the family who was swept away by floods.

Rescuers also found the bodies of an elderly couple whose house collapsed in the floods, the state-run Anatolia news agency reported. Saray is in Tekirdag province, close to the border with Greece.

Heavy rains that began late Monday washed away one bridge and inundated hundreds of homes in the Saray region. Dozens of farm animals were swept away by gushing waters. Heavy rains caused floods in the Silivri and Catalca suburbs of Istanbul, as well, immersing homes and roads, officials said. Two people were reported missing. One was a girl, whose mother and sister managed to get out of a car safely before the girl was dragged away by the floods, Istanbul Gov. Muammer Guler said.

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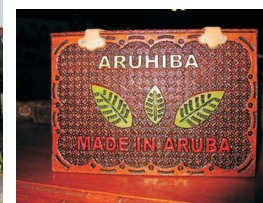
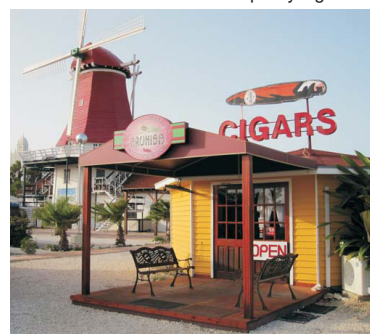
ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba.



Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba".



Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars. The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open on Sunday from 9am to 8pm. And also at Tamarijn Hotel open from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores. Visit our authentic tobacco farm where cigars are handmade.



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Pirate-plagued Somalia trains 500 navy recruits

MOHAMED SHEIKH NOR

Associated Press Writer

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)

— Pirate-plagued Somalia took a step toward policing its own shores with the graduation of its first 500 naval recruits Tuesday. Officials hope the men will form the backbone of the country's first naval force for nearly two decades, but said they need international funding to make it a viable force.

Somalia currently relies on international warships to police its lawless shores, where the U.N.-backed government is fighting Islamist insurgents and clan-based militias fight each other. The chaos provides a perfect refuge for pirates who prey on vessels passing between Asia and Europe — one of the world's busiest trade routes.

Japan, America, Germany,

China, Canada and other nations have sent warships to the Gulf of Aden but there are not enough of them to cover the danger zone. The pirates have expanded their operations hundreds of miles offshore in the Indian Ocean. Last year pirates captured over 100 ships and attacks have increased this year. Foreign navies are reluctant to tackle the pirates on land for fear of getting sucked into the bloodbath of Somalia's 18-year-old civil war.

Somalia's new naval commander, Admiral Farah Ahmed, said the new batch of recruits who graduated Tuesday are the first tranche of a new force responsible for tackling piracy. Each man will receive \$175 a month and the force will be armed with tanks, machine guns and rocket propelled grenades.

He said the navy will set up bases in the ports of Bosasso, Berbera and Kismayo, and its headquarters in the capital of Mogadishu. The scheme is currently funded by the Somali government but Ahmed says members of the international community have also pledged funds. The new force faces several challenges. The port of Berbera is in Somaliland, a relatively peaceful area in the north that has declared its independence from the government in the chaotic south. The impoverished areas around Bosasso are pirate havens, where the influx of money from the gunmen has made them wildly popular. Kismayo in the south is in the hands of Islamist insurgents who have vowed to topple the U.N.-backed administration and there is daily fighting in the capital of Mogadishu.



Somali security forces take part in a mock detention of pirates during a training drill at a beach in Mogadishu, Somalia, Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009. Pirate-plagued Somalia has finished training 500 recruits to form the backbone of its first naval force for nearly two decades. The country currently relies on international warships to police its lawless shores under a U.N. mandate. But they have not managed to prevent Somali pirates from attacking scores of ships this year so far. Last year pirates captured over 100 ships.

Associated Press

The force also has only a dozen boats so far — pirate gangs have used more in a single attack. And although donors all agree on the need for a Somali coast guard, they have so far been reluctant to release funding for more recruits and equipment after a previous scheme to train Somali police

was dogged by widespread corruption and desertion.

Many private military companies have expressed an interest in training the new Somali navy but European naval officials have expressed fears that new recruits might simply end up as better trained pirates. □



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SPORTS

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Tom Brady's back - time for the NFL to rock

BARRY WILNER
AP Football Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Tom Brady is throwing passes and avoiding paparazzi, and the NFL is the better for it. He's the reason the New England Patriots again are favored to play in the Super Bowl.

The expectations are only high until you consider what Brady has done this decade — aside from marrying a supermodel and becoming fodder for the entertainment media.

The superstar quarterback has guided New England to three NFL championships in four Super Bowl appearances. Two years ago, he put together the greatest season any passer has compiled, resurrecting Randy Moss' career in the bargain. Brady hasn't lost a regular-season game since the 2006 season. He directed the Patriots to a 16-0 record in 2007, and went down with a knee injury in last year's season-opener.

When he was knocked out by the Kansas City Chiefs, the NFL lost some pizzazz, and there were no playoffs for the Matt Cassel-led Patriots. More significantly, there was no Brady Watch: No chase for more records; no political candidates knocking down his door for endorsements; no flood



This is an Aug. 28, 2009, file photo showing New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (12) in the huddle during the first half of a preseason NFL football game against the Washington Redskins, in Landover, Md. The Boss is back. Time for the Patriots, and the NFL, to rock again.

Associated Press

of TV commercials. Pretty much no Brady sightings as he recuperated.

Is he fully recovered? The left knee seems to be holding up but then he hurt his right shoulder after being tackled in a preseason game against Washington, making many wonder if, at 32, was Brady getting a tad brittle.

"I've been dealing with this for a long time, almost for the last year. I know where I'm at," he says. "I know how I feel, how comfortable I am back there, and I try to convey that I feel like that was part of last season. This season has been a different year for me. I've already missed a year. I've already paid the price for it.

"Moving forward, you've just got to try to work as hard as you can to get back to your normal self and I really feel like I am. ... I think if I make a poor play,

I never have thought, 'Well, I wonder if it was because of my injury last year.' I think, 'Well, I've got to make improvements.' Just like every year where things don't really go your way." Given Brady's propensity for serving up wins, it might be wise to put all doubts aside and just tune in to what he does starting on Monday against the Buffalo Bills.

Until then, there are plenty of other NFL story threads to follow.

Even before the season kicks off with the now-traditional Thursday game — defending champ Pittsburgh hosts Tennessee — the NFL has been a whirlwind, particularly off the field. Consider these sagas, all of which will continue to be played out over the next five months, heading toward the Super

Bowl in Miami.

—Michael Vick in Philadelphia.

After serving 18 months in prison for his involvement in dogfighting, the former Atlanta star landed with the Eagles in mid-August. He has been cleared by commissioner Roger Goodell to play in Philadelphia's third regular-season game on Sept. 27. Vick has looked rusty in two preseason games for Philly, and his impact could be minimal this season.

—Brett Favre in Minnesota.

The twice-retired Favre landed in Minnesota, weeks after the NFL's all-time leading passer said no (wink, wink) to the Vikings. Soon to be 40, with a damaged rotator cuff and, at least in some circles, a tattered legacy, Favre is being counted on to lift the

Vikings to a title.

If he is the Favre of the first 11 games of 2008 with the New York Jets, when he was healthy, Minnesota made a good decision. If he is the injured Favre of the final six weeks, Vikings coach Brad Childress might be joining Favre in retirement next year.

—Labor issues.

Fans want to hear about touchdowns and wins, not collective bargaining agreements and losses. But the next few months will include numerous negotiations between the league and the NFL Players Association, which has a new, aggressive executive director, DeMaurice Smith. The owners opted out of the current agreement, which will end after the 2010 season. And if no new deal is reached before March, there almost certainly will be no salary cap in '10 and possibly no season in 2011. For now, there is anticipation of a new season, of finding that team which will go from stinker to contender (the Green Bay Packers?) or plummet (Tampa Bay Buccaneers?). Of discovering new stars (Baltimore running back Ray Rice? Pittsburgh linebacker Lawrence Timmons?) and feeling sorry for faded ones (Favre?).

And it's time to welcome back the biggest star in the NFL universe. Sure, quarterbacks Eli Manning and Philip Rivers recently received bigger contracts than Brady. But they're still role players compared to the NFL's boss. □



U.S. Open

Murray upset by Cilic

EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Second-ranked Andy Murray was surprisingly ousted from the U.S. Open by Marin Cilic of Croatia by a lopsided 7-5, 6-2, 6-2 in the fourth round on Tuesday.

Cilic overcame two set points in the first set, then pounded Murray over the last two to reach his first career Grand Slam quarterfinals. Murray, who lost to Roger Federer in the final at Flushing Meadows last year, will finish 2009 without making a major final. The match ended in the late afternoon in New York, and just before newspaper deadlines back in England, where the sports sections follow Murray's every move. Certainly, those headlines won't be nice on Wednesday morning.

"Today, I could've been better in pretty much every part of my game, whether it was mental, forehand, backhand, return," said Murray, who conceded that, yes, this was the most disappointing loss of his career.

How to explain this setback, his earliest loss on hard-courts since the Australian Open, against the Croatian he had beaten in their three previous meetings?

The right-handed Murray was holding his left wrist and grimacing in pain at the end of the first set. He said the wrist had been bothering him for a week or so.

"Regardless of my wrist, I lost the match," Murray said. "I returned poorly. He served well and that was really the difference."

Cilic moved on to meet sixth-seeded Juan Martin del Potro, who reached his second straight U.S. Open quarterfinals by cruising past No. 24 Juan Carlos Ferrero 6-3, 6-3, 6-3.

Cilic vs. del Potro will pit two players who are 20, with lanky frames and big serves.

"For sure, if he beat Murray, he's confident," said del Potro, who lost to Murray in

the Open quarterfinals a year ago. "It will be very tough for me."

In another fourth-round men's match, No. 11 Fernando Gonzalez of Chile eliminated No. 7 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga of France 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (3), 6-4. Gonzalez faces No. 3 Rafael Nadal or No. 13 Gael Monfils in the quarterfinals.

Kim Clijsters, already into the semifinals, will face a Williams for the second time in this tournament.

Clijsters beat Venus Williams in the fourth round; now she'll take on defending champion Serena Williams, who improved her win-loss record to 23-1 in Grand Slam singles this season by beating No. 10 Flavia Pennetta of Italy 6-4, 6-3.

Looking ahead to facing Clijsters, the younger Williams said: "She's such a great person and I, like, only wish the best for her. But not in the next match."

The American and Belgian both have 12-match winning streaks at the U.S. Open. Clijsters won the first seven en route to the 2005 title, the last time she played in New York, and has five this year, the last a 6-2, 6-4 win against 18th-seeded Li Na of China.

Still unranked because she only had played in two tournaments before the U.S. Open, Clijsters is the first unseeded woman to reach the semifinals at Flushing Meadows since Elena Dementieva in 2000.

"I'm surprised to be sitting here talking to you right now," Clijsters said.

Cilic said the set points he saved, serving at 4-5 in the first, were the turning point against Murray. He responded by getting ahead 0-40 on Murray's serve in the next game, won the second break point, then took 13 of the next 17 games for his first career win over an opponent ranked in the top three.

"It was a relief for me to start getting more into the game," Cilic said of his reaction after saving the set points. "I didn't have to think too much. I

played good, played tactically well, and he was missing."

Murray had 29 unforced errors, 12 fewer than Cilic, but he hit only 13 winners and never looked comfortable in the match in Arthur Ashe Stadium.

Off on Tuesday, but certainly looking on with interest, was Federer. Gone was Murray who, at least the rankings say, was supposed to be Federer's biggest challenger, the man who last month became the first since early 2006 to break the Federer-Rafael Nadal stranglehold on the top two spots.

Murray, meanwhile, was one of the sport's new breakout stars, one of the few out there who could beat Federer with some regularity, and a winner of five tournaments this year. None of them, however, was a Grand Slam, and his status as a popular choice to break through this week wasn't



Andy Murray of Britain reacts during his match against Marin Cilic of Croatia during the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009. Cilic defeated Murray in three sets.

Associate Press

worth much against Cilic.

"I put pressure on myself to win the tournaments," Murray said. "It's nice to hear that sometimes from other players,

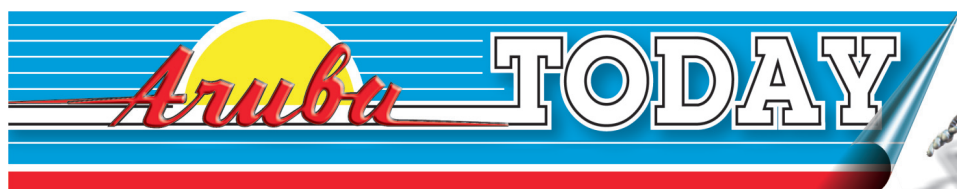
or ex-players, but it doesn't make a difference who says you're going to win, lose tournaments. That doesn't affect you." □



Serena Williams, left, of the United States celebrates after beating Flavia Pennetta of Italy 6-4, 6-3 during the quarterfinals, and Kim Clijsters, right, of Belgium waves to spectators after her victory over Li Na of China during the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2009.



Associated Press



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AL Roundup

Buehrle gets first win since perfect game

CHICAGO (AP) — Mark Buehrle won for the first time since pitching a perfect game on July 23, ending his eight-start drought by leading the Chicago White Sox over the Boston Red Sox 5-1 in the American League on Monday.

Carlos Quentin homered as Chicago took three of four from the AL wild-card leaders. Buehrle (12-7) outpitched Josh Beckett (14-6), scattering eight hits over seven-plus innings. The White Sox lefty had been 0-4 with a 5.44 ERA since his gem against Tampa Bay.

Buehrle gave up a first-inning run and then pitched his way out of several jams. Leading 3-1, he gave up a leadoff single to Victor Martinez in the eighth and was replaced by Tony Pena, who struck out Jason Bay and Mike Lowell.

Beckett, who hasn't won since Aug. 12, gave up three runs and six hits over seven innings. He retired his final 10 batters and was able to keep the ball in the park, something he'd failed to do in his five previous outings when he surrendered 14 homers.

Royals 6, Angels 3

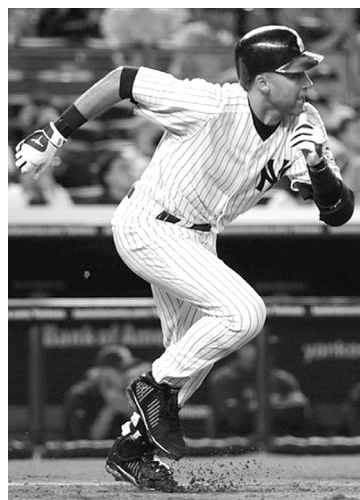
At Kansas City, Missouri, Billy Butler homered twice and had four RBIs as Kansas City ended a nine-game losing streak to the Los Angeles Angels.

Kansas City played solid defense, had 11 hits and survived a scare from its shaky bullpen to beat Los Angeles for the first time since May 7, 2008. Butler hit a two-run homer in the

fifth inning off Ervin Santana (7-8) and a solo shot off Jose Arredondo in the eighth for his second multihomer game this season.

The AL West-leading Angels continued their September hitting funk, failing to take advantage of numerous opportunities against Royals starter Kyle Davies (7-9). Los Angeles, which hit .206 the first five games of the month, left runners in scoring position in four of Davies' five innings and stranded 12 overall.

Yankees 4, Rays 1, 1st game Yankees 11, Rays 1, 2nd game



New York Yankees' Derek Jeter runs to first during the third inning of the second baseball game of a doubleheader against the Tampa Bay Rays on Monday, Sept. 7, 2009 at Yankee Stadium in New York. A run scored, Jose Molina was out at second, and Jeter was safe at first. The Yankees won 11-1.

Associated Press



Chicago White Sox starting pitcher Mark Buehrle delivers a pitch against the Boston Red Sox in the first inning during a baseball game in Chicago, Monday, Sept. 7, 2009.

Associated Press

At New York, Derek Jeter went hitless with a walk from eight at bats to remain three hits behind club record-holder Lou Gehrig as New York swept a day-night doubleheader from Tampa Bay. After a sparkling pitcher's duel between CC Sabathia and Matt Garza in the opener, Robinson Cano hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in a three-run eighth inning. Mark Teixeira hit a three-run homer in an eight-run third that broke open the second game and added a solo shot, boosting A.J. Burnett (11-8) to his first win since July 27.

New York has won 11 of its last 14 and is 39 games over .500 for

the first time since 2004. The Yankees opened a season-high nine-game AL East lead over second-place Boston and moved 6 1/2 games ahead of the Los Angeles Angels for best record in the AL — and homefield throughout the postseason.

Tampa Bay slugger Carlos Pena broke two fingers on his left hand when he was hit by a pitch in the first. Because he swung, he didn't even get to first base. Twins 6, Blue Jays 3

At Toronto, major league batting leader Joe Mauer got three more hits and keyed a five-run first inning as Minnesota downed Toronto.

Jason Kubel doubled twice for the Twins, who snapped a seven-game losing streak in Toronto. The Blue Jays have lost 11 of 15.

The Twins wound up using five relievers. Jesse Crain (5-4) worked 1 1-3 innings and Joe Nathan closed it out in the ninth for his 37th save in 42 chances. Minnesota had scored five runs overall just once in their previous 10 games, but broke loose against Scott Richmond (6-9). Mauer put the Twins ahead, Justin Morneau and Michael Cuddyer had RBI singles and Delmon Young drove in a run with a grounder. □

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Presidente de Colombia suscribe referendo sobre reelección

BOGOTA (Reuters) - El presidente de Colombia, Alvaro Uribe, firmó el martes un proyecto de referendo que le abre el camino para buscar su segunda reelección consecutiva y de inmediato lo envió a la Corte Constitucional para que inicie el examen de legalidad, informó el Gobierno. La sanción del referendo, aprobado previamente por el Congreso, y su envío al tribunal fue interpretado por analistas como una clara señal de que el mandatario está interesado en ser candidato en los comicios del 2010.

El presidente no ha hecho pública su intención de lanzar su candidatura para un nuevo periodo de cuatro años, pero tampoco lo ha descartado. Uribe es el más cercano aliado de Estados Unidos en América Latina, una región donde gobernantes de izquierda han ganado injerencia.

La Corte Constitucional puede declarar legal el trámite y aprobación del referendo en el Congreso, fallo que habilita al Gobierno para convocarlo.

En ese caso, el referendo deberá contar con la participación de un 25 por ciento de los electores habilitados -más de 7 millones de personas- que en las urnas decidirán si lo aprueban o lo rechazan.

Pero el tribunal también lo puede declarar ilegal por vicios o errores en su aprobación, caso en el que impediría que Uribe busque extender su Gobierno hasta el 2014.

El presidente de la Corte Constitucional, Nilson Pinilla, anunció que el análisis jurídico del trámite del referendo podría demorar entre cuatro y cinco meses.

El magistrado admitió la posibilidad de examinar no sólo la aprobación en el Congreso, sino también el proceso de recolección de los cuatro millones de firmas con que se presentó la iniciativa ante la Registraduría y la financiación del proceso.

Los opositores Partido Liberal y Polo Democrático confían en que la corte declare ilegal el referendo. □



Foto de archivo del presidente de Colombia, Alvaro Uribe. REUTERS/Roberto Jayme

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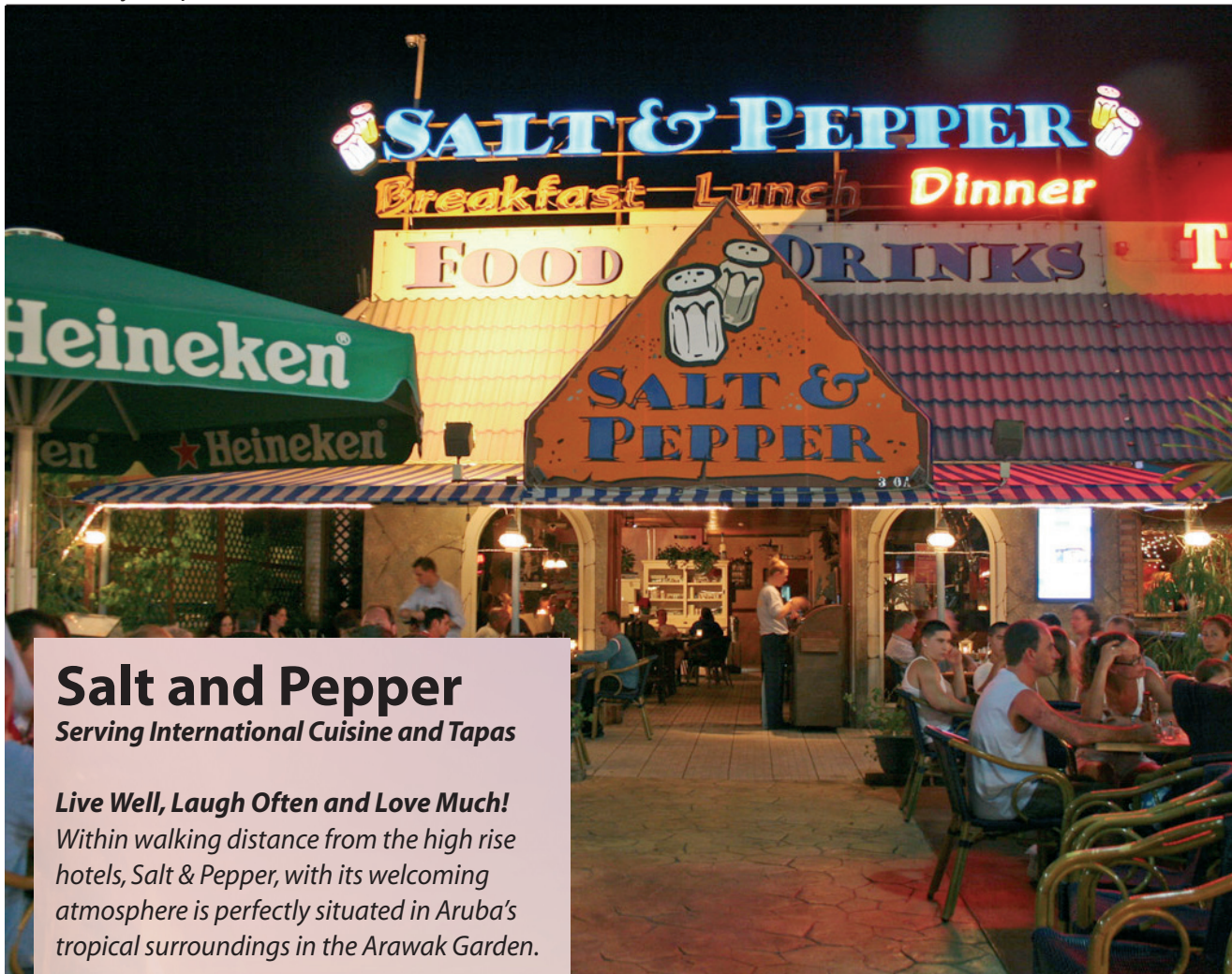
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www.cafetheplaza.com



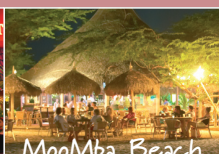
Tango Argentine Grill

Tango Argentine Grill
(at Arawak Garden, High Rise Hotels)
International Cuisine and Charcoal Grill
Phone: 586-8600
Dinner and Daily Live Music. World famous Argentine beef prepared on open charcoal grill.
Open from
5.00 pm - 11.00 pm
7 days a week
www.tangoaruba.com



Salt & Pepper

Salt & Pepper
(at Arawak Garden, High Rise Hotels)
International Cuisine and Tapas
Phone: 586-3280
Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner. Daily Live music by local artists and bands on our large terrace.
Open from
8.00 am - 01.00 am
7 days a week
www.saltandpepperaruba.com



MooMba Beach

MooMba Beach
(between Holiday Inn & Marriott Surf Club)
International Cuisine
Phone: 586-5365
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and Daily Live Music. Enjoy dinner by torch light... barefoot on the beach. Open from
7.00 am - 11.00 pm
Bar open from
10.00 am - 01.00 am
www.moombabeach.com



Sopranos Piano Bar

Sopranos Piano Bar
(at Arawak Garden, High Rise Hotels)
Bar with Live Entertainment
Phone: 586-8622
Extensive Cocktail menu. Daily live music, request your favorite songs and sing along! Open from
5.00 pm - 01.00 am
7 days a week
www.sopranospianobar.com



Matilde

Matilde Restaurant
(Downtown)
International Cuisine
AAA/4 Diamond Award
Phone: 583-9200
Lunch and Dinner
A refined dining experience.
Restaurant open from
11.30 am - 11.00 pm
7 days a week
www.matildearuba.com



Mambo Jambo

Mambo Jambo Latin Bar & Grill (Royal Plaza Downtown)
International & Latin Cuisine
Phone: 583-3632
Lunch, Dinner, Live Bands, Salsa Dancing, Great food and good music 7 days a week. Restaurant open from
11.00 am - 09.00 pm,
Bar open from
11.00 am - 04.00 am
www.mambojamboaruba.com



Hadicurari

Hadicurari Restaurant
(between MooMba Beach and Marriott Surf Club)
International and Seafood Cuisine
Phone: 586-2288
Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
'Seafood with a view'
Restaurant open from
8.00 am - 11.00 pm
7 days a week
www.hadicurari.com



WWW.ARUBAWINEANDDINE.COM

